

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Koichiro KOMATSU et al.

Rule 53(b) Continuing Application of U.S. Application No.

09/481,503, filed January 12, 2000

Filed: September 15, 2003

Docket No.: 105173.01

For: SURFACE INSPECTION METHOD, SURFACE INSPECTION APPARATUS, AND
RECORDING MEDIUM AND DATA SIGNAL FOR PROVIDING SURFACE
INSPECTION PROGRAM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

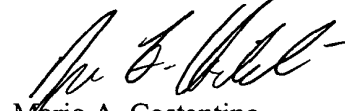
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. Relevance of the non-English language reference(s) is discussed in the present specification.

- ☒ 3. The reference(s) was/were cited by or submitted to the Office in parent application No. 09/481,503, filed January 12, 2000, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120. Thus, copies of these references are not attached. 37 CFR §1.98(d).

Respectfully submitted,


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<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>

Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 105173.01		Rule 53(b) Continuing Application of U.S. Application No. 09/481,503, filed January 12, 2000	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT(S) Koichiro KOMATSU et al.			
				FILING DATE September 15, 2003		GROUP	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
		5,497,234	3/1996	Haga	356	237.5	
		6,166,393	12/2000	Paul et al.	356	237.5	
		6,201,601	3/2001	Vaez-Iravani et al.	356	237.4	
		6,222,624	4/2001	Yonezawa	356	237.4	
		4,881,268	11/1989	Uchida et al.	356	71	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
		8-75661	03/1996	Japan			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Date: September 15, 2003